[11th March 1929

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"May I know whether the Government propose to increase the licence fees on boats plying on the Buckingham canal alone, or also on boats plying in other parts, for instance, in the Godavari and Kistna deltas?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"The proposal that I referred to was only with regard to the Buckingham canal."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Apart from the increase of fees, may I know whether the Government have any other measures in contemplation to make the loss less than what it is now?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"At the present moment I cannot remember anything else; any suggestion will be welcome."

Irrigation

Investigation of the Vemanda branch project.

*1670 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the investigation to carry on the Vemanda branch project in Kistna district has been completed;

(b) when the project will be executed; and

(c) what is the number of acres likely to be benefited by it?

A.—No such project is under contemplation. If the hon. Member refers to the Vempad branch project, estimates for the scheme to irrigate about 4,500 acres of short crop in the Kistna Eastern Delta have been received from the Chief Engineer, and referred to the Board of Revenue for report on its financial aspect. On receipt of the Board's report the scheme will be taken up for consideration.

Issue of water from the Red Hills lake for irrigation purposes.

*1671 Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) when the issue of water for irrigation from the Red Hills lake was started last year;

(b) what the level of water in that lake was;

(c) whether the issue of water for irrigation is still going on;

(d) what the amount of water issued for irrigation from the Red Hills lake up to 10th February is;

(e) what the quantity of water that is issued daily is; and

(f) how long the Government propose to issue water at this rate to the ryots without causing anxiety to the city supply?

A.—(a) 5th December 1928.

(b) + 44·47 feet.

(c), (e) & (f) The answer to clause (c) is in the negative.

(d) 62·75 m.c.ft.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know whether there is any fixed date for the issue of this water? In the previous Government Order that date was 15th December, but this time the Government have anticipated by ten days."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I believe the hon. Member is right, Sir. But if he wishes to have an authoritative answer I must ask for notice."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know, Sir, with reference to clause (*e*) to which the answer is in the negative, whether the Government are not in a position to know how much water is let out every day from the lake, whether there are not any measurements kept and whether the Government are aware that there are scandalous practices going on for want of accurate measurements at the outlet?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The hon. Member's question was understood to refer to issues that are now being made. As no water is being issued daily, that answer was given. But if he wishes to know what quantity can be issued daily, I will enquire if notice is given of the question."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I believe the Government have completed the improvements; I wish to know if they have noted the results of that work, whether it resulted in increase of supply?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The work is not yet finished; but if the hon. Member wishes to know whether it has had any real effect, I must ask for notice."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know whether the Government have any proposals to acquire the lands irrigated by this tank with a view to secure adequate water-supply to the City of Madras?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" So far as I am aware, such a proposal is not under consideration at present."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know whether the Government think it possible for them to meet the needs of the cultivators as well as of the city?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is asking for an opinion."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know whether the Government will consider a certain proposal to that effect sent by the Corporation of Madras?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know if the Government are aware that, on account of leakage, a lot of water is going out without being of use to anybody?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I am not aware of it."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know whether this leakage was brought to the notice of the Government two years back, the water leaking at night

in sympathy with the cultivators, no measurement being kept for the water issued, and whether the Government held any enquiry and the man in charge, the overseer, was taken to task for these malpractices ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I must ask for notice of that."

Land Revenue

Extent of assessed land in the Wynad taluk, in Malabar.

*1672 Q.—Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the total extent of land assessed to revenue in the Wynad taluk, in Malabar, under the former settlement was and what the extent of such land under the present settlement is ;

(b) what the total revenue assessed under the former settlement was and what the total assessment under the present settlement is ; and

(c) what the total extent of the uncultivable lands assessed to revenue under the present settlement is and what the revenue assessed thereon is ?

A.—(a) & (b) The information asked for in (a) will be found in Appendix I and that asked for in (b) in Appendix II of the Special Settlement Officer's letter which is among the papers printed with G.O. No. 2850, Revenue, dated 6th December 1928. The Government Order has been published with the connected papers.

(c) The information will be found in paragraph 5 (b) (ii) of the same letter.

Restoration of the jamabandi allowances to village officers.

*1673 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what is the estimated amount of annual savings to Government by the discontinuance of the jamabandi allowances to village officers in ryotwari areas ;

(b) whether any representations have been made to the Government requesting them to restore the jamabandi allowances ; and

(c) whether the Government propose to give these allowances hereafter ?

A.—(a) Rs. 2,05,615.

(b) The Government have not received any such representations.

(c) The Government will consider the question if the financial results of the restoration measures show a sufficient saving.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"May I know if the financial results of the restoration measures have been ever examined and, if so, what they are ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"They are under examination now ; they have not yet finished examining them."